4th August 1965]

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As this question itself pertains only to that fact, have the Government any proposal to extend these rules?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have already answered 'No'.

Attenders in Aided Secondary Schools

* 43 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to permit Attenders of over 20 years of age with E.S.L.C. qualification, in Aided Secondary Schools, to appear as private candidates for the S.S.L.C. examination?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it a fact that girls over twenty years of age are now permitted to appear as private candidates if they have already completed their E.S.L.C.?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir, To enable the unfortunate women like widows, divorced wives and deserted wives to earn a living by honourable means, Government have permitted women candidates who have attained 18 years of age and have passed E.S.L.C. or III Form or Eighth Standard to appear privately for the S.S.L.C. Examination.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that many of these Attenders are qualified even over III Form, and unless they are allowed to appear privately for the S.S.L.C. Examination, they have no chances of bettering their prospects?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : But these Attenders do not deserve the sympathy which the women do.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Should not the Government at least now extend these benefits to men also because we have equality of opportunity as among sexes?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no such proposal.

Teachers in Non-Government Colleges

* 44 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which the scheme of pension for Teachers in Non-Government Colleges took effect; and

(*b*) the rate of pension allowed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) 1—4—1962.

(*b*) Pension is calculated at 1/4th of the average pay for the last three years subject to certain ceilings fixed for the College Professors including the Principals.

[4th August 1965

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I know what these ceiling amounts are?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : In the case of B.T. Assistants, pension was originally fixed at the rate of Rs. 30 per mensem for 30 years of qualifying service. For Headmaters, a special additional pension of Re. 1 for each completed year of service as Headmaster subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 was sanctioned. Consequent on the revision of the scales of pay of all employees in the State including teachers during 1960, the rate of pension of B.T. Assistants and Headmasters was revised. The maximum pension was fixed at Rs. 60 per mensem for B.T. Assistants and Rs. 75 per mensem for Headmasters. The special additional pension of Rs. 5 was discontinued.

In the case of teachers in aided colleges, pension is subject to the maximum amounts fixed for each category, ranging from Rs. 60 per mensem of Tutors and Demonstrators to Rs. 150 per mensem to Principals.

In limiting the pension to these maximum amounts, the following, among other things, were the reasons :—

(i) Teachers in aided and local body service are eligible for Contributory Provident Fund while teachers in Government service are not.

(ii) Normally, only Government servants are eligible for pension. It was extended to teachers only as a special case. It was, therefore, felt not necessary that aided school teachers should be eligible for the same rates of pension as those of Government servants.

(iii) The extra cost involved to Government by increased rates of pension will be large as the entire expenditure on pension has to be met by Government.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that the Pay Commission has recommended that the pensionary benefits are the same even if it be contributory provident fund and quarter pension or half pension as in the case of the Government servant? That being so what is the difficulty in removing the ceiling?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the Pay Commission has recommended only with reference to the Government servants.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Government see that the pension scheme is extended to lecturers in service on the crucial date, namely 1st April 1962, irrespective of the fact whether they had attained the age of superannuation earlier, as has been done in the case of High school teachers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, there is no such proposal.